

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M:21-10

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic The John Wesley Briggs House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 102 Chestnut Street not for publicationcity, town Gaithersburg vicinity of congressional district 9thstate Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Gaithersburg state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber

street & number folio

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Nonedate federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. M-21-10

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This residence is an example of the transition between the sprawling Queen Anne style of the 19th century and the compact 20th century craftsman bungalows and cottages popular from 1910 to 1930. Built on a corner lot visible from the railroad as well as Chestnut and Meem Avenues, it has two principal facades.

This early 20th century 2-1/2 story late Queen-Anne influenced tri-gabled house with rear wing sits on a nearly a half-acre triangular lot at the corner of Meem and Chestnut Avenues, in a neighborhood of mixed architectural styles and lot sizes. Neighboring structures range from 1950 1-story duplex cottages on 6,000 square foot lots and office condominiums to an 1880 Second Empire house on a one acre lot. The house has a moderately deep setback. A modern gambrel-roofed garden shed is at the northwest corner of the rear yard.

The irregularly shaped frame house is a 2-1/2 story "L"-shaped 3-bay by 2-bay house with a rear 2-1/2 story wing. The front ell is formed of two 2-1/2 story rectangular blocks, each extended with a mitered three-sided bay. The 2-1/2 story, 2-bay by 1-bay rear wing has several 1-story shed-roofed enclosed extensions. The cross-gable roof is covered with modern composition shingles. Exterior siding is with aluminium siding. Windows are generally 2/2 wood sashes with plain surrounds with 1/1 windows used only in the front bay. The foundation is fieldstone and the interior chimney is brick. There is an open 2/3 width front porch and an open porch on the east side of the rear wing.

The west block of the ell has a front-gabled south (front) 2-story mitred 3-window bay with a pyramidal roof. The 2-bay west side has two evenly-spaced windows on each story. The side-gabled east block south facade has two evenly-spaced windows on the 2nd story, a window in the east bay and a door in the west bay on the 1st story. The 1-story hipped-roof porch supported with three jig-sawn bracketed turned posts is not accessed by a sidewalk. The east facade has a small rectangular window in the attic gable and a flat-roofed 2-story mitred three-window projecting bay. The first story has a door in the north side of the bay, opening onto the rear porch. The 2-story east facade of the rear wing has one central window on each story. The shed-roofed 1-story porch is supported by three turned posts connected by a turned spindle balustrade.

The north (rear) facade is unrelieved on the 2nd story on the east rear wing. The first story has a 1-story shed-roofed extension. The attic gable on the main house rear facade has a small square light. There is one central window on the 2nd story and a modern sliding patio door on the 1st story. A flat-roofed 2-story section connects the two.

8. Significance

Survey No. M-21-10

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

☐ local history

Specific dates 1902

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This late Victorian house was built in Meem's Addition by John Wesley Briggs, a wealthy retired farmer, next to the Meem Family home on Chestnut Street. The family owned the house until 1964. The house is altered by the application of aluminum siding, considered to be reversible, and several rear additions.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Meem's Addition is part of 200 acres purchased by Martha A. Meem from Mary J. Bibb at \$5.00 per acre in 1862, 1/ which she began selling in parcels shortly after her husband's death in 1865. 2/

The Right of Way for Chestnut Street was first dedicated in 1873 to provide access to houses and commercial property near Wards Station on the railroad and development followed. By 1894 three fine houses were on the west end of Chestnut Street, one being the new residence of the Meem Family. 4/

In 1896, the land along Chestnut, Meem, and Diamond Avenues was subdivided as "Meem's Addition to Gaithersburg" into 30 half-acre lots adding a short unnamed street (now Floral Drive) and two alleys. 5/ A flurry of land transfers occurred between the children to clear titles and divide the estate. In 1902, a prominent retired farmer, John Wesley Briggs, bought lot 17 from Harry C. Meem 6/ and probably built the late Victorian 2-1/2 story frame house at 102 Chestnut soon after. The large house is a sprawling L-shaped house with projecting bays, varied roof and window treatments, and a rear wing. In size and style, it closely resembles other houses built by locally prominent individuals such as the Zachariah and Mary Briggs house at 6 Walker Avenue and the Lodge house at 9 DeSillum Avenue, both built near the turn of the century. Like these houses, 102 Chestnut was designed to show an ornate or "principal" facade with bays and porches to viewers on two sides.

John Wesley Briggs also purchased most of the land on the east side of Meem from Chestnut north. 7/ He had a large garden which ran from Chestnut Street to son H. Garnett Briggs' house at 104 Meem and a cow pasture from Garnett's house to Avenel Executive Park. 8/
Continued on attachment 8.1

Significance/History (continued)

The John Wesley Briggs House/ 102 Chestnut Street

John Wesley Briggs died in 1917. 9/ For many years after, another Briggs son Charles E. Briggs and his family made their home with their widowed mother, Mary C. Briggs. 10/ On her death in 1937, the house at 102 was left to Charles and his wife May Belle. Charles died in 1950 and May transferred the property to their son Wesley L. Briggs and his wife Myrtle in 1951. 11/ Wesley died in 1952 and Myrtle sold the property to Michael J. and Joan More in 1964. 12/

Footnotes:

1. Montgomery County Land Record JGH9/228 and The Montgomery County the tax assessment for 1863 which lists George Meem with 200 acres at \$5.00 per acre with no improvements.
2. See "Meem's Addition to Gaithersburg", Judy Christensen, 1990, for the City of Gaithersburg.
3. Montgomery County Land Record EBP10/388 where Ward & Fulks purchased 3 acres by the railroad and a road right of way to the Barnesville Road. It became a public road in 1883 by petition to the County Commissioners.
4. C.J., Maddox Jr., Map of Gaithersburg, 1894.
5. Montgomery County Plat 3/133 (1896, recorded 1910).
6. Land Record TD24/40 (1902). See also Gaithersburg: The Heart of Montgomery County, 1978, City of Gaithersburg; page 338-341 for the history of the Briggs Family in Gaithersburg.
7. Land Records 214/401 from Geo.W. and Marian Meem for lots 22 and 23 (1910) and 214/401 et seq., lots 20 and 21 from from Albert Meem. (1910)
8. Interview with Daniel Robertson whose family built 115 Meem Avenue in 1910. May 1990.
9. Land Records 1339/16 and 1339/14 (1910).
10. Interview with DANiel Robertson, May 1990.
11. Land Record 1567/340 (1951)
12. Land Record 3226/266 (1964)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M-21-10

Montgomery County Land, Plat, and Assessment records. Gaithersburg: The Heart of Montgomery County, 1978, City of Gaithersburg, MD.
C.J.Maddox Jr. 1894 Map of Gaithersburg; Interview with Daniel Robertson, May 1990.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .44 acres

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 17 of Meem's Addition to Gaithersburg.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Judy Christensen		
organization	For the City of Gaithersburg	date	May 1990
street & number	6 Walker Avenue	telephone	926-2650
city or town	Gaithersburg	state	Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

GAITHERSBURG HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET

ADDRESS 102 CHESNUT STREET
County: Montgomery
Gaithersburg

MHT # M-21-10
LIBER 3236, FOLIO 266

SURVEY # 047
LOT L17, BLOCK -

OWNER: Michael Moore
ADDRESS: same
CITY: same

PRESENT USE: residence
ORIGINAL USE: residence
BUILDER: unknown

STYLE: Late Victorian

DATE BUILT: c.1900

PHYS. COND: -

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:

FOUNDATION: stone, brick
WALL STRUCTURE: Balloon
WALL COVERING: aluminum siding

ROOF CONSTRUCTION:

ROOF STRUCTURE: Wood Truss
ROOF COVERING: pressed tin, fishscale pattern
ROOF STYLE: gable
EAVES: boxed cornice, decorative brackets
CHIMNEYS: -

APPENDAGES:

ADDITIONS: several
ELLS: -
PORCHES: front
SUPPORTS: turned posts
OUTBUILDINGS: -

STORIES: 2 1/2

BAYS: 3

APPROX DIMENSION: 32 X 28

WINDOWS:

TYPE: d.h.s.
LIGHTS: varied
BAY WINDOWS: front, right
SIDE BY SIDES: front
GABLE TYPES: -

ENTRANCES:

LOCATION: -
DESCRIPTION: transom

THREAT: none

SURROUNDINGS: residential

M.21-10

DESCRIPTION: Front-two storey bay with roof in left bay. Front of gable extends one bay in hip-type fashion. Cornice supported with decorative brackets. Porch supported by turned posts, decorative brackets at top. Transom over door. Original door with hand-turn bell and extended, carved wood ledge under window.

Right elevation-two storey bay with flat roof. Gable above flat bay roof, part of original house. Door in bottom of bay, painted transom. Roof of porch on side has exposed rafters, square posts, corrugated roof.

Rear elevation-several additions with modern windows, some original wood siding, (shiplap). Original gables have boxed cornice. Square casement windows, four panes. Left elevation-symmetrical window placement.

Recorded by:

P.Patula/C.MacFarland

November 21, 1981

Historic Inventory Task Force

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Frame House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

102 Chestnut Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Gaithersburg

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Montgomery**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

STREET & NUMBER

Telephone #:

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE
MD**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:21-10

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house at 102 Chestnut Avenue, Gaithersburg, is a two story frame late nineteenth century residence located on the northwest corner of Chestnut Avenue and Meem Street and facing southeast.

The house is basically a two story, three bay structure with a projecting left or south bay. This bay has a polygonal bay extending through both floors and the gable roof, ending in a jerkin-head. A one story shed roofed porch extends across the other two bays. The north elevation is a polygonal two story bay with a flat roof extending from the main gable. This bay may be a later addition. A two story rear ell and other one story additions project from the northwest elevation.

The foundation is stone and the exterior is covered in aluminum siding, the original siding probably being weatherboards or German siding. The roof is stamped shingle patterned metal. The porch has turned baluster columns and scroll brackets. The south bay has small brackets at the cornice line of the jerkin-head. The fenestration varies, some being 2/2 sliding wood sash and others modern aluminum. A central chimney breaks through the roof of the main section.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house at 102 Chestnut Avenue and the neighboring houses at 104 and 105 Chestnut Ave. are good examples of late nineteenth century small town residences. The area surrounding was Meem's Addition. Further research is needed on the development of this section of Gaithersburg.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M:21-10

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

co-terminous with tax parcel

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Janet Davis

ORGANIZATION

MHT/SHA Surveyor

DATE

November 10, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

MD 21401

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



urvey

October 1944
1945

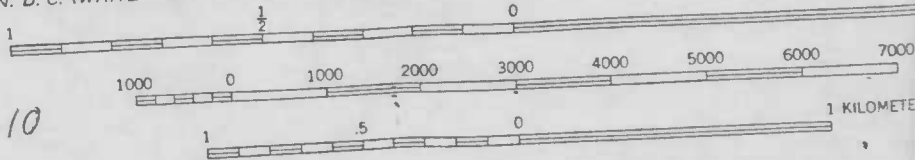
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e system
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442

UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

M:21-10

Gaithersburg
Quad



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



Frame House

M-21-10

102 Chestnut Ave.

Gaithersburg, MD

photo: Jane + Davis

neg loc: MD Historical Trust

19 September 1980

camera facing west

1/1



H-21-10

102 Chestnut St
Gaithersburg, Md 20877
Montgomery County
Photographer Judy Christensen
Date 1990 Spring
Front facade (east)



M-21-10

102 Chestnut St.

Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Montgomery County

Photographer: Judy Christensen

Date: 1990

North & east facade; corner of
Chestnut & Main



102 Chestnut St. M-51-10
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
Montgomery County

Photographer - Judy Christensen
Date 1990

View from Meem Ave - north facade



M-21-10

102 Chestnut St

Garthersburg, MD 20877

Montgomery County

Photographer Judy Christensen

Date 1990

Rear yard looking toward west
façade



102 Chestnut St. M-21-10
Guthrie House, N.Y. 30877

Photographer Judy Christensen
Date 1990

Rear & side view from Queen
Avenue; west & north
facades